

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior claim versions and listings in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A flanged member adapted to be included as a first flanged member in a flanged joint in a pressure equipment device, said flanged member comprising:

a first flanged end with a first end surface ~~configured to be~~ forming a load transferring surface through which forces are transferred when assembled together with a corresponding end surface of a flanged end of a second flanged member of said flanged joint;

at least a portion of said first end surface in an unstressed condition being concave in a radial direction, such that said at least the portion of said first end surface is curved and defined by a concave curve function,

wherein said first end surface is concave in the radial direction over at least an area that is subjected to deformation when the flanged member is assembled together with said second flanged member, and in the unstressed condition, a proximal point on the at least the portion of said first end surface and a distal point of the at least the portion of said first end surface meet a plane inclined in the radial direction of said flanged member.

2. (Previously Presented) The flanged member according to claim 1, wherein said first end surface is concave over the entire extension thereof in the radial direction.

3. (Currently Amended) The flanged member according to claim 1, wherein said first end surface is concave in the radial direction over at least an area that is subjected to deforming forces ~~when the flanged member is assembled together with said second flanged member as well as during use.~~

4. (Previously Presented) The flanged member according to claim 1, wherein said first end surface is concave over essentially a contact surface against the corresponding end surface of said second flanged member.

5. (Previously Presented) The flanged member according to claim 1, wherein said first end surface comprises a varying concave surface in the radial direction.

6. (Previously Presented) The flanged member according to claim 1, further comprising an internal, through, axial opening, said first end surface having an innermost abutment point against the corresponding end surface of said second flanged member, said abutment point is being situated nearest in the radial direction, to said opening, the concavity of the first end surface extending all the way in to said abutment point.

7. (Previously Presented) The flanged member according to claim 1, wherein said first end surface has an innermost abutment point against the corresponding end surface of said second flanged member at an internal, through, axial opening of said second flanged member, said innermost abutment point being situated nearest in the radial direction, to said opening, the concavity of the first end surface extending all the way in to said abutment point.

8. (Previously Presented) The flanged member according to claim 1, wherein a conceived straight line (X) that connects an innermost point (a) of said first end surface, in the radial direction, with an outermost point (b) thereof, in the radial direction, has a length L_x and the concavity of the end surface has a maximum depth D_k in relation to a conceived plane surface produced by said line (X), which depth D_k is of the order of 0.01 %–2 % of L_x .

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) The flanged member according to claim 1, wherein at least a part of a transition area, between a surface of the flanged end directed away from said end surface and a part of the flanged member that is substantially parallel to a longitudinal axis of the member, is shaped as a substantially elliptical area.

11. (Currently Amended) A joint comprising two flanged members adapted for a pressure equipment device, said two flanged members each comprising at least one flanged end

having an end surface forming a load transferring surface through which forces are transferred when connecting together said two flanged members in an assembled state, such that in the assembled state said end surfaces face each other,

wherein, for at least one of said two flanged members, at least a portion of the end surface in an unstressed condition is concave in a radial direction, such that the at least the portion of the end surface is defined by a concave curve function, said first end surface is concave in the radial direction over at least an area that is subjected to deformation when the flanged member is assembled together with said second flanged member, and a proximal point on the at least the portion of said first end surface and a distal point of the at least the portion of said first end surface meeting a plane inclined in the radial direction of said flanged member.

12. (Previously Presented) The joint according to claim 11, wherein both of the flanged members have a concave end surface.

13. (Currently Amended) The joint according to claim 11, wherein said end surfaces facing each other before assembly are inclined in the radial direction outwards to ~~from~~ form an angle in radial cross-section, the angle being such that a distance between the two end surfaces increases in the radial direction outwards, at least one of said inclined end surfaces being concave.

14. (Previously Presented) The flanged member according to claim 5, wherein said concave surface has more than one radii of curvature.